

# The Listening Post

A newsletter from the Kentucky Talking Book Library

Number 53

Fall 2008

## Welcome Jefferson County Patrons!

In mid-September, the Kentucky Talking Book Library began serving patrons in the Louisville-Jefferson County area who had previously been served by the Louisville Talking Book Library. It is unfortunate the Louisville library had to close for budgetary reasons, but rest assured that the staff there has been reassigned to new jobs within the Louisville Free Public Library system.

The staff here at KTBL is pleased to welcome our new Louisville patrons and we look forward to getting to know you better. Your computer records were transferred from Louisville to us here in Frankfort. This information includes your reading interests, request lists, circulation information, magazine subscriptions, and the books you have already read. We have reviewed each patron's record and made adjustments when necessary.

We need your input to tailor your service to meet your needs. For example, some patrons were originally signed up for Talking Books when they were children, and even though they are now adults, they still have children's interests on file. Please contact your librarian if you would like to change the type of books being sent to you, the number of books you receive, or anything else about your service. Call our toll-free telephone number, 1-800-372-2968, or email your librarian:

--For patrons with last names beginning A-F, your librarian is Barbara Penegor ([barbara.penegor@ky.gov](mailto:barbara.penegor@ky.gov)), ext. 282

--For patrons with last names beginning G-O, your librarian is Janet Chisman ([janet.chisman@ky.gov](mailto:janet.chisman@ky.gov)), ext. 278

--For patrons with last names beginning P-Z, your librarian is Jenny Paul ([jennifer.paul@ky.gov](mailto:jennifer.paul@ky.gov)), ext. 283.

## **Kentucky Talking Book Library Borrower's Agreement**

Louisville Talking Book users may find that some of our policies differ from what they are used to. We want to take this opportunity to remind all our patrons of our basic operating policies. Below is the Borrower's Agreement given to patrons who apply for our service. Please keep it for future reference.

As a patron of the Kentucky Talking Book Library, you will have certain responsibilities. Please keep in mind that "books" refers to Braille or Talking Books.

- I understand that books are on loan for 30 days, and must be returned to the Kentucky Talking Book Library within that time.
- I understand that I must request and return at least 1 book every 6 months or have a magazine subscription (not including catalogs or the KTBL newsletter) in order to remain an active patron.
- I understand that all equipment is the property of the Library of Congress, I must take reasonable care of it, and I must return it to the Kentucky Talking Book Library if I am no longer actively using the Talking Book program.
- I understand that I must notify the Kentucky Talking Book Library anytime my name, address, or telephone number changes.
- I understand that I must not lend or give Talking Book equipment or reading materials to any other person.

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### **Caring for Cassette Players**

The Talking Book Library provides the special cassette player necessary to listen to our 4-track cassettes. We will provide a replacement if the player ever stops functioning properly. If you have a machine problem, call you librarian first. We may be able to determine if the problem is caused by the settings on the player, a damaged cassette tape, or another problem we can easily talk you through. If the problem is more difficult, we will send a replacement and will ask you to return the player so we can repair it and send it to another patron.

If possible, include a short note describing the problem so that our repair staff can identify the source. Please keep the cassette player box in case you need to return or exchange it. Our players qualify for "Free Matter" shipping, so you do not have to pay postage, but you will probably have to take it to the post office. Louisville patrons: you may return your players to the Louisville Talking Book

Library and they will forward it to us, or you may address it to Kentucky Talking Book Library, PO Box 537, Frankfort, KY 40602.

Please take good care of the cassette player loaned to you. These machines are no longer manufactured, and we must refurbish them to send to other patrons. We should begin to receive Digital Talking Book players in 2009, but cassette players will remain in use for many more years. Most patrons will not receive the new digital players for several years, and even then most older books and all recorded magazines will be available only on cassette.

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### **What To Do about Damaged Books**

From time to time you may receive a cassette book that has a damaged tape, is missing a tape, or has an extra tape from a different book. We apologize for this inconvenience. Because the Talking Book Library does not have enough staff to open and inspect all books before they are sent out, we rely on our patrons to alert us to problem tapes. Please follow these directions if you receive a defective book:

- Do not rewind it—leave it at the problem spot.
  - Mark an 'X' on the shipping card. This lets us know to pull the book aside and look for the problem.
  - Put a rubber band around any damaged cassettes, but please do not write on the cassettes themselves.
  - Call the library at 1-800-372-2968 if you want another copy of the book, and we will immediately send one if it is available.
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### **Where Are My Books?**

If you feel you haven't been receiving books according to schedule, there are several possibilities that could account for it:

-- You already have your maximum number of books checked out. No more books will be sent to you until some have been returned. Read and return books promptly. Check your home for books that may have become misplaced or overdue.

--You have asked to be "Request Only", and you do not have any books on your request list, or the books you have asked for are not available. Send more requests, or ask your librarian to select books for you if you become low on requests.

--You have been cancelled for inactivity. Users must receive at least one book every six months, or subscribe to a magazine, in order to be considered an active patron. Call us to reactivate your service.

--Your books are delayed in the mail. Because the mail leaves our building very early in the morning, KTBL does not mail books until the next business day. Books checked out on Friday do not go into the mail until Monday morning.

Please contact your librarian to discuss any circulation problems. She can check your record to see if any of the above circumstances apply to you, and will work with you to remedy the situation.

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### **Are you a Veteran?**

If you haven't already done so, please contact KTBL to let us know if you are a veteran. By federal law, honorably discharged U.S. military veterans receive priority service from the Talking Book Library. When the conversion to Digital Talking Book players begins next year, veterans will be the first patrons to receive the new players.

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### **Read About Kentucky**

The Talking Book Library has two digital recording booths in which volunteers narrate books by Kentuckians or books about Kentucky to supplement the NLS collection. If you are interested in some home-grown reading, we can send you a catalog listing over 1,400 titles we have recorded over the years. "Kentucky Books Catalog 2006" includes all books recorded up to 2006. It is available in large print or on cassette. We have produced individual catalogs for the years 2007 and 2008 which are available in large print, on cassette, or via email. If you would like to request any of these catalogs, please contact Greta Wise at 1-800-372-2968, ext. 279.

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### **What's Your Pleasure?**

We want you to know what's new with us. This newsletter, *The Listening Post*, is available in large print, cassette, Braille, and e-mail formats. Our bi-monthly catalog of cassette books, *Talking Book Topics*, is available in large print, on cassette, or on online at <http://www.loc.gov/nls/tbt/index.html>. Our bi-monthly Braille catalog, *Braille Book Review*, is available in Braille, in large print, or online at <http://www.loc.gov/nls/bbr/index.html>. Please give us a call at 1-800-372-2968 if you would prefer another format for newsletters or catalogs.

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## Donations

KTBL would like to thank the following people for making donations to our library. Your generosity makes our programs possible and is greatly appreciated by both staff and readers.

John & Anna Cook  
Jean D'Ambro  
Othur & Doris Garrett  
Dorine Geeslin  
Truman Lawrence

Vergia Lutz  
Charles Robey  
Marie Saunders  
Richard Walter & Mary Bruins  
Allen & Dorothy Wayne

In Memory of Frances Winkler by Martha Taggart, Mary Norris, Cheryl Grayless, Elaine Cowen, and Becky Taggart-Redmond

In Memory of Fred Porter by Gayle Harris and Eunice Westrich

In Memory of Irene Flora by Cindy McCaleb

If you would like to contribute to KTBL, please make your check or money order payable to the Kentucky Talking Book Library, P.O. Box 537, Frankfort, KY 40602-0537. Please do not send cash through the mail. Donations are 100% tax deductible. The Talking Book Library does not solicit donations by phone or by mail. If you receive such a request, please be aware that it does not come from or benefit KTBL.

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## What Are Your Needs?

The Kentucky Office for the Blind is conducting a statewide Comprehensive Needs Assessment to determine the unmet needs of Kentuckians who are blind or have a vision impairment. Please assist them in determining what your needs are in the areas of Adaptive Equipment and Devices, Housing, Employment, Areas of Independent Living, and Access to Mainstream Education. Please take time to complete a short survey by going to its website at <http://blind.ky.gov/>. Click on the link, "Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment". If you do not have computer access you may call Cora McNabb at 1-800-321-6668 and complete the survey by phone, or request one by mail.

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## Helpful Hints

Talking Books patron Dena Coomer suggested a simple method to avoid mixing up tapes between different cassette books. When you start a book, fasten one container strap and leave the other one unfastened. That way you always know which container to return tapes to, and no tapes will spill out if it is dropped. If you have any suggestions for ways to use talking books, or to help with other problems for visual or physically disabled patrons, please let your librarian know and it may be featured in a feature issue of *The Listening Post*.

## New Descriptive DVDS

The following titles have been added to KTBL's descriptive DVD collection. These films have an additional audio track narrating the action on screen for those who cannot see it. Patrons who wish to check out descriptive DVDs or videos must complete a separate application. If you would like to fill out an application or place any of these films on your request list, please contact Greta Wise at 1-800-372-2968, ext. 279.

*A Touch of Frost, Season 3*—Inspector Detective Jack Frost Mysteries

DVD-00176 – *Stranger in the House* – a serial rapist is on the loose.

DVD-00180 – *Appropriate Adults* – disappearance of a small girl.

DVD-00181 – *Quarry* – a saboteur is murdered before a hunt.

DVD-00182 – *Dead Male One* – unidentified body found in river.

DVD-00183 – *No Refuge* – murder at a family-run glass works.

Other Titles:

DVD-00177 – *The Scarlet Letter* – classic tale of adultery in colonial Massachusetts, based on the Nathaniel Hawthorne novel. 1934.

DVD-00178 – *Woman on the Run* – woman searches for her husband with gangsters in pursuit. 1951.

DVD-00059 – *Blue Steel & The Dawn Rider* – two John Wayne westerns. 1934-35.

DVD-00179 – *Shirley Temple Classics* – comedy sketches from 1932-33.

DVD-00184 – *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde* – classic horror story of an experiment gone wrong, starring Jack Palance. 1968.

DVD-00185 – *Daniel Boone* – frontiersman builds a settlement in Kentucky but is captured by renegades on his way home to Richmond. 1936.

DVD-00186 – *The Turn of the Screw* – Lynn Redgrave stars as a governess to two children who may be possessed by ghosts. From the Henry James novel. 1974.

DVD-00187 – *Kentucky Rifle* – western about settlers traveling through Comanche territory. 1956.

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## Holiday Closings

The Talking Book Library will be closed for the following state holidays:

November 27-28, 2008 – Thanksgiving

December 25-26, 2008 – Christmas

January 1-2, 2009 – New Year's Eve and Day

January 19, 2009 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

If you call during regular work hours and get a recorded greeting, it means our staff is helping other readers, or we are in a meeting. Please leave a message and we will return your call as soon as possible.

Kentucky Talking Book Library P.O. Box 537, Frankfort KY 40602  
1-800-372-2968

## **Important Items to Remember**

**Kentucky Talking Book Library**

**P.O. Box 537**

**Frankfort, KY 40602-0537**

**1-800-372-2968 (toll-free)**

**1-502-564-8300 ext 276 (local)**

**Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. EDT**

**You may leave a voice mail message after hours.**

**We want you to enjoy Talking Books. Your librarian will tailor your service to suit your needs. She will be happy to assist you in any way possible. Please do not hesitate to call us for any of the following:**

- **to make book requests**
- **with any questions or problems**
- **whenever your name, address, or telephone number changes**
- **to temporarily stop service**
- **if you want to change the types of books you get, or the number of books you receive**
- **when you have problems with books or machines**
- **if you want to change the format of your newsletters or catalogs**
- **to cancel your service**

**Include your name, address, and telephone number on all correspondence, request lists, e-mails, and telephone messages. We frequently receive request lists with no name and no way to identify the sender.**

**Please return each book as soon as you finish it. The maximum loan period is 30 days.**

**Kentucky magazines and the cassette version of *The Listening Post* must be returned to KTBL within 30 days. Keeping the magazine or newsletter longer will prevent you from receiving future issues.**

**Remember to rewind all movies and cassette tapes before returning them.**

**Mark an "X" on the mail card of any defective book. Do not mark on the cassette.**

**Take care of all cassette books, Braille books, and cassette players; keep them free of food, liquids, dust, and debris.**

**Please keep this list for future reference.**



In providing information to readers of The Listening Post, the Kentucky Talking Book Library does not endorse any product or service referred to in this newsletter.

# The Listening Post



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**KENTUCKY TALKING BOOK LIBRARY  
P O BOX 537  
FRANKFORT KY 40602-0537**

**FREE MATTER FOR THE  
BLIND AND  
PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED**



The Listening Post is available in large print, cassette, Braille, and e-mail formats. Call 1-800-372-2968 to request another format.

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